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IDEA-0219

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30 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR : The Record

SUBJECT : Notification to Department of State

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1. On 19 March at 1100 hours LST, Colonel Beerli advised Mr. Bissell of the U-2 crash [] Mr. Bissell indicated that he would inform General Cabell of the incident. When queried by Colonel Beerli on Monday, 20 March, regarding the advisability of notifying the Department of State, Mr. Bissell suggested that it not be done at that moment. Later on Mr. Bissell gave concurrence to State notification and Colonel Beerli called Mr. Robert Hilsman, Director Intelligence and Research, and advised him of the mishap. Mr. Hilsman expressed his appreciation for the notification.

2. Colonel Geary was notified of the U-2 crash on Sunday, 19 March. At that time he accepted responsibility for advising appropriate Department of Defense and Air Force personnel.

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JOHN N. McMAHON
Executive Officer
DPD-DD/P

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